



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO COUNTERFEITING CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to participating in a conspiracy to manufacture and pass counterfeit money.

Dustin J. Young, 26, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to charges contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on March 9, 2004.

By pleading guilty, **Young** admitted that, from August 2003 to Feb. 12, 2004, he participated in a conspiracy to use a Hewlett-Packard computer and scanner/copier to make digital images of genuine \$20 bills, then produce and print digital copies of those bills. **Young** used the scanner/copier to manufacture at least \$5,280 worth of counterfeit money, Graves said.

In two related cases, **Robert E. Williams**, 31, of Excelsior Springs, Mo., and **Shannon M. Rudder**, 25, of Gladstone, Mo., pleaded guilty on April 8 and 14, 2004, respectively, to aiding and abetting others in making counterfeit currency with intent to defraud between Feb. 10 and 12, 2004. Both defendants await sentencing.

Williams and **Rudder**, who were originally charged along with **Young** in a federal criminal complaint filed on Feb. 13, 2004. They admitted that they met with **Young** at a hotel room in Independence, Mo., between Feb. 10 and 12, 2004. A Hewlett-Packard combination scanner/printer was in the hotel room, Graves said, and was used to scan genuine \$20 bills then print counterfeits. **Williams** admitted that he assisted the others by concealing the counterfeiting operation from detection by law enforcement and by passing some of the counterfeit money at a Wal-Mart store in Richmond, Mo. **Rudder** admitted that he operated the scanner/printer and passed some of the counterfeit money at the Wal-Mart store.

Under federal statutes, **Young** could be subject to a sentence of up to 50 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$750,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John E. Cowles. It was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service, the Richmond, Mo., Police Department and the Independence, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow